DFAS-ASO/CPI

Interested Vendors:

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) intends to issue a Request For Proposal (RFP) for "Department of Defense (DOD) Military Retired and Annuitant Pay" services. The purpose of the solicitation is to provide pay account maintenance and related services in support of military retirees and annuitants. This procurement is part of an Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-76 study. As such, you will be competing initially among industry and ultimately against the Government's Most Efficient Organization (MEO).

At present, we are issuing a draft performance work statement (PWS), proposal preparation instructions and evaluation criteria in an effort to solicit industry comments and recommendations. It is our intent to provide vendors with a maximum amount of flexibility in providing a solution to the solicitation. DFAS is seeking your feedback on the enclosed draft so that we may achieve that objective and increase the prospects for success. We intend to fully consider all comments and viable recommendations.

All aspects of the retired and annuity pay business area are included in the PWS. To maximize proposal flexibility, the solicitation will provide the following:

- The option of using the Government's present system, the Defense Retired and Annuity Pay System (DRAS), or proposing an alternative system;
- The option of performing the entire range of services or excluding the information technology processing and printing portions of the requirement;
- The option to propose alternative contract types, pricing structures and incentive plans;
- Consideration of alternative contract lengths (prior to release of final solicitation).

Additionally, we are interested in exploring alternatives for the pricing and structure of the government-directed automated information system changes. DFAS is concerned with the use of time and material provisions for these requirements. Furthermore, we would like to ensure that quality personnel are provided in non-key positions over the life of the contract.

DFAS requests your comments by July 14, 2000. We intend to issue a complete RFP on August 11, 2000, and have tentatively scheduled a Preproposal Conference for August 24, 2000, in Arlington, Virginia. Vendors are advised that periodic updates may be posted to the DFAS web site at www.dfas.mil/aso/contract/.

In addition to the above, the Government is providing potential vendors the opportunity to participate in an optional, informal advisory evaluation. The process, as described in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) subpart 15.202, is intended to provide feedback on whether the

Government considers the vendor to be a viable competitor based on its understanding of the requirements and corporate/team capability. Further details are provided in the document entitled: "Advisory Oral Presentation Guidelines," provided on the DFAS web page. The available dates for oral presentations are July 24 through 28, 2000. Vendors interested in participating must schedule a date and time no later than July 14, 2000.

Comments/recommendations may be submitted via e-mail to <u>william.thoreen@dfas.mil</u>, or <u>kenneth.arena@dfas.mil</u>, or by fax to (703) 602-8773. Questions may be referred to the undersigned at (703) 602-4927 or Mr. Kenneth Arena at (703) 602-9226. We look forward to receiving your comments.

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William J. Thoreen Contracting Officer